

Would you like a chance to be on TV and help kids with cancer at the same time?

*Wind* for Change

When I was 14, I was misdiagnosed with cancer in my leg. At the time I was using my speed to run track so you can imagine my fear. It turns out I actually had a staph infection in my bone, which is just as dangerous and rare. I had immediate surgery, spent a month in the hospital and then more time at home which included experimental IV treatment which saved my left leg. I have since recovered, and was able to win track races in High School and continue to run long distance road races today.

Now I want to help kids going through their cancer treatments realize that they have a full life ahead. Help me take out the fear and raise money for Cool Kids Campaign Learning Center designed for kids going through treatment and missing school. I will be seeking pledges to sponsor my run in the Baltimore 10 miler in June. I will start from the back of the pack, and raise even more money from the race organizers for every person I pass along the way. My goal time of 1:20:00 would put me in the top 10% of finishers, and show the kids that you can come from behind and still win.

Here is how you can help: I will be at your school to talk about the weather and hold a contest to see who can blow the fastest wind measured by a hand held anemometer (wind meter). It’s a lot of fun and other students have had a blast seeing how they compare to the wind. All you have to do to participate is find sponsors so we can work together for the kids with cancer. The attached sponsor sheet has all the details.

The students with the top wind speed and money raised from your school will get mentioned on ABC2. At the end of the school year, two kids from all the schools I visit – the top fundraiser and the student with the highest anemometer reading - will be invited to Channel 2 as honorary weather kids!

Find out more information, track the progress, and see videos of my school visits (and even one of my HS track races) on Facebook at **Wind for Change** **with Justin Berk** or the Cool Kids Website, www.coolkidscampaign.org, or their Facebook page as well!

-Justin Berk, Meteorologist, Teacher, Runner, and Lover of Life.

 